News from LANTDIV

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Navy Team from Norfolk Shares DoD Award

A jointly developed contract by Army, Navy and Air Force engineers received one of five team awards from the Defense Standardization Program Office (DSPO) for outstanding contributions to the Department of Defense last fiscal year.

The March 4 DSP ceremony in Washington, D.C. recognized individuals and organizations achieving significant improvements in quality, reliability, readiness, cost reduction, and interoperability through standardization.

Bob Billmyre, Senior Electrical Engineer, Headquarters U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE); R. David Curfman and Richard Paradis, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Engineering Innovation and Criteria Office, Norfolk, Va.; Maria Swift, Atlantic Division NAVFAC Facilities Support Contracts Branch, Norfolk, Va.; and Larry Spangler, Air Force Civil Engineering Support Agency, Tyndall AFB, Fla. jointly developed a contract to give service architects and engineers Internet access to non-government standards referenced in military criteria, standards and specifications for facilities planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance.

"Legislation directed federal agencies to use commercial standards rather than government-unique standards when procuring products, systems and facilities to the maximum extent practicable," Curfman explained. "The services had traditionally relied on government produced facilities criteria and standards and procured non-government standards through individual contracts. These redundant contracts wasted valuable resources and inhibited uniform application of the standards."

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Engineers and Architects at sixty-six locations within USACE, NAVFAC and USAF now have access to most of the non-government standards they need for facilities planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance from the convenience of their desktop computer.

"We expect to see reduced construction, acquisition and engineering costs in the Military Construction process," Curfman added. "The real-time value, however, is the immediate access from the engineer's or architect's desktop without having to order the standards needed."

The Atlantic Division, one of four engineering field divisions of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, plans, designs, and constructs shore facilities for the Navy, Marine Corps, and Department of Defense along the East Coast of the U.S. and throughout the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean.